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- 24.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein a first portion of the tube is made from a first metal and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube is made from a second metal different from the first metal.
- 25.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein a first portion of the tube is characterized by a first porosity and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube, is characterized by a second porosity different from the first porosity.
- 26.(New) The method of claim 23 further comprising the step of disposing a treatment agent on the stent.
- 27.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the stent includes a plurality of serpentine segments extending about the circumference of the stent.
- 28.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the cutting step includes forming a plurality of serpentine segments which extend about the circumference of the stent.
- 29.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the cutting step includes forming a plurality of openings which are elongate.
- 30.(New) The method of claim 23 wherein the cutting step includes forming a plurality of openings whose widths exceed their lengths.
- 31.(New) A stent formed in accordance with the method of claim 23.
- 32.(New) A method of manufacturing a stent comprising the steps of:  
providing a tube having at least two different axially spaced regions of different physical characteristics;  
cutting a plurality of openings in the tube to form a stent.
- 33.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein a first portion of the tube is made from a first metal and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube is made from a second metal different from the first metal.
- 34.(New) The method of claim 32 wherein a first portion of the tube is characterized by a first porosity and a second portion of the tube, axially spaced from the first portion of the tube, is characterized by a second porosity different from the first porosity.
- John B. H.*